

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No.: 37697-9036

Applicant: Edward W. MERRILL et al. Confirmation No.: 7738

Appl. No.: 09/842,166 Examiner: C. Miller

Filing Date: April 26, 2001 Art Unit: 3738

Title: RADIATION AND MELT TREATED ULTRA HIGH MOLECULAR WEIGHT POLYETHYLENE PROSTHETIC DEVICES

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Election
S. Bixler
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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

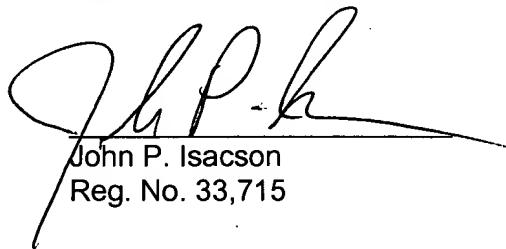
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the restriction requirement mailed October 9, 2002 (Paper No. 9), applicants hereby elect with traverse the claims of Group I, namely claims 124-36.

Applicants traverse the restriction requirement on the grounds that the examiner has not demonstrated the requisite "serious burden" needed to justify a restriction requirement. See MPEP § 803(B) (August 2001) at 800-4. Given that the claims have already been searched, applicants submit that that there seems to be no serious burden on the examiner to examine all of the claims. Thus, applicants respectfully request examination of all of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,



John P. Isacson
Reg. No. 33,715

November 8, 2002
Date

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